

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3 as follow:

The present invention relates to a connection assembly for a grid structure in which two elongate elements are connected at an intersection and also to a grid structure formed from such connection assemblies. Such structures can be used in various commercial applications but have particular relevance to pallet containers wherein an inner plastic container suitable for transporting liquid substances is enclosed by an outer supporting container comprising such a grid structures.

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 6, line 32 as follow:

In a preferred embodiment at each crossing intersection 4 or T-intersection 8, the inner dimension of the receiving opening 6 formed in the first element 2 is sized with respect to the outer dimension of the second element 2 3 such that there is no play between the collar 7 and the second element 23. Here, the second element 23 is then inserted through the opening 6 under the application of force to overcome friction between the outer surface of the second element 23 and the inner face of the collar 7. In this manner a non-positive frictional fit is established between the first and second elements 2 and 3 which adds to the mechanical strength of the connection assembly, particularly against bending moments which may arise under load in the plane of the two elements 2 and 3

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 7, line 11 as follow:

As also shown in Figs. 2 to 6, the first element 2 may comprise an inner ridge 9, the apex of which is arranged to lie close to or to contact the outer surface of the second element 23 at a position P1. Although not illustrated, a second, identical ridge could also be provided on the opposite side of the first element 2. The ridge 9 can be formed when making the element 2 by externally applying pressure to form a longitudinal crease or indentation 10. Alternatively, the indentation 10 could be formed only in the regions of the intersections 4 of the two elements 2 and 3. An internal ridge 9 could also be formed within the tubular structure of the first element

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during its production process whereby the outer diameter of the element 2 tube would remain substantially circular or elliptical, without any significant external indentation 10 being visible.

Please amend the following paragraph beginning at page 8, line 1 as follow:

The openings 6 ~~in~~of the first element 2 can be made by drilling and punching operations as will now be described.